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The Dollar of Our Daddies.

The silver dollar, which is again a disturbing element in the financial prosperity of the country, seems to have had a lot of trouble in its day and generation, and is now getting back at the United States treasury with alarming persistency. Some of the facts concerning it are of immediate interest and will bear summing up. Here is the chronological history of the silver dollar.

Authorized to be coined, act of April 2, 1792; weight, 416 grains; fineness, 892.4.

Weight changed, act of January 18, 1837, to 412½ grains.

Fineness changed, act of January 18, 1837, to 900.

Coinage discontinued, act of February 12, 1873.

Total amount coined to February 12, 1873, \$8,031,238.

Coinage reauthorized, act February 28, 1878.

Amount coined from March 1, 1878, to December 31, 1887, \$283,296,357, (including \$1,837 recoined).

Total amount coined to December 31, 1889, \$358,969,239.

The first silver dollar was put in circulation in 1794.

"It was a crude design," says a historian. "On the obverse or face of the coin was imprinted the head of a young lady facing to the right. Her hair was flowing to such an extent that she looked as if taken in a gale of wind.

In 1796 Congress stepped in to the aid of the typical damsel and tied her hair up with a bit of ribbon.

The fifteen stars were after this reduced to the original thirteen in recognition of the number of states.

In 1836 the design was again changed, and the silver dollar bore the full figure of a neatly-dressed woman in a flowing garment. The designer forgot, however, to put in thirteen stars and the coin was soon called in. Any person now in possession of one of these dollars has a valuable souvenir.

The new design had the lady surrounded by the stars. It was an improvement on its predecessor, but the air of the female figure was debaucher and stiff.

The dollar of 1838 was the first artistic piece of silver coined by the United States mint.

On April 22, 1864, the first dollar having the legend, "In God we trust," was coined.

In 1873 the era of the trade dollar of 90, fineness began. That troublesome dollar ran its erratic course in just five years.

In 1878 the liberty dollar made its appearance. Miss Anna W. Williams, a teacher in the Girl's Normal School at Philadelphia, sat for the portrait, her profile being then considered the most perfect obtainable. Her classic features still decorate the silver dollar.

The "Hobo" Again.

Recent tests of Col. Robert William's mine, the "Hobo" give surprisingly satisfactory results. The ledge is being crosscut and has a depth of about 25 feet. Twenty feet of the vein has already been exposed and only one wall discovered thus far. The average of the ledge as far as developed is \$13 per ton of free milling gold. Every piece of the rock from any part of the ledge shows a fine prospect in the horn. Development work is being rapidly carried on, and the mine at present gives promise of becoming one of the best paying properties in the territory. Box canyon is fast gaining a reputation as a gold producing district, and the owners of the "Hobo" are to be congratulated upon the good fortune which gave them possession of so promising a property.

Fruit Broker Woelker of Phoenix is getting together for shipment this week a carload of honey consigned to Liverpool and two carloads for New York. This means nearly \$8,000 put into circulation amongst beemen of the Salt River valley. A carload consists of 24,000 pounds and producers receive four cents per pound delivered on board car at the Phoenix depot. It costs \$1.25 per hundred weight for freight to New York, and only 40 cents more to Liverpool, twice the distance.—Star.

An Effective Madstone.

Nearly every one has heard more or less about madstones and the wonderful cures with which they are credited in saving life where a person has been bitten by a mad dog. Many regard these stones as a mere superstition, but statistics go to prove that they really do contain many wonderful properties. Madstones are seldom heard of anywhere except in the southern states, where they are quite common, and most of the people of that section place great faith in them. Mrs. J. M. Parks, a lady residing in this city, is the possessor of one of these remarkable stones, and a reporter called on her to learn something about them.

"Yes," she said when questioned on the subject, "I have a madstone and have had it many years. My husband found it near Magnesia Springs, Fla. I have only had occasion to use it three or four times since it has been in my possession, and each time the best results followed. The reason that I have not used it often is that I never hear of a case where a person has been bitten by a mad dog until I see it in the paper, and then it has always been stated that the patient has been taken with convulsions. It is too late to use the madstone then. Spasms do not generally appear until about nine days after the person is bitten, and if the stone is applied any time previous to the convulsions the poison will be entirely drawn out by it.

"The worst case I ever cured with my madstone happened when a policeman here in the city, named Price, was bitten on the hand by a mad dog. His arm had swollen up to three or four times its natural size and had turned black. The man was suffering the most excruciating agony, and his physician had despaired of his life. I accidentally heard of his case and at once hurried to the house with my madstone. The doctor consented to give it a trial, and the result was that the man recovered and is now walking around the streets as well as ever."

Upon the reporter's asking if he might see the stone Mrs. Parks immediately produced it, remarking as she did so, "It does not look nearly as powerful as it really is."

It is a little, porous, chalklike substance about an inch long, half an inch wide and a quarter of an inch thick and appears to be a sort of a vegetable compound.

"The process of applying the madstone," continued Mrs. Parks, "is very simple and somewhat similar to vaccination. You select some part of the body between the bite and the heart and with a sharp knife scrape the skin till the blood comes, then apply the stone to the raw spot. The stone will adhere immediately, and its drawing qualities are so great that it will almost bury itself in the flesh, sucking out the poison until all the pores of the stone are filled with the deadly virus. The stone then drops off of its own accord, and after being thoroughly cleansed with milk, warm water and soap is applied again. This is kept up till the stone refuses to stick, thereby showing that all the poison has been drawn out."—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

F. C. Robie, Will Reno and Charles Lingo, who are chloriding in the Ibez district, have brought down some rich specimens with them which they will have assayed. They have faith in the district, and say that some of the richest mines in the southwest will be unearthed there, as witness the rich strike in the Ibez mine. The ore, too, is free milling. With plenty of water and convenient milling facilities, the chlorider has several valuable advantages.

The richest strike yet reported in this section has been made in the Ibez mine. Some of the ore recently taken out runs \$4,000 to the ton, while quite a lot of rock that will easily go \$1000 is on the dump. The mill, which has been shut down for some time owing to a scarcity of gasoline, will resume operations Monday. It is now in charge of P. K. Klinefeller, one of the owners, while his nephew is in charge of the mine, vice Pem Murphy, who resigned the superintendency.—Needles Eye.

The Passing of Coxe.

What was foreseen and constantly predicted from the time the Coxe army set forth has finally come to pass. The "commonweal army," reduced both as to numbers and as to rations, for weeks has been eking out a beggarly existence in Camp "Lost Liberty," near Washington. The men seem to have retained their faith in Coxe to a surprising degree, holding together and waiting patiently even during his protracted absence of several weeks. A few days ago their loquacious leader appeared again among them to confess that the commonweal game was up, that the army must disband and its members find food and shelter as best they could. The champion of "non-interest-bearing bonds and good roads" had his own private business at Massillon to look after, and as Carl Browne had judiciously deserted a few days previous, the men find themselves stranded, helpless and leaderless. They are subsisting mainly on blackberries growing along the road and in the woods, and when these give out they will have the alternative of going to the work house in Washington or tramping back the way they came. This is precisely the outcome predicted by all rational observers when the visionary Coxe first announced his intention of taking a "living petition" to congress. The petition, it was obvious, would be ignored, and the petitioners would eventually be left helpless at the door of the nation's capitol. It is the farcical but logical ending of a movement which at one time developed astonishing proportions. Now that it is all over, it seems even more curious and is likely to be remembered as one of the most singular episodes of the latter part of the century. Regardless of what motives may have actuated the leaders and the privates of the "army" it is a sufficient indication of a singular social condition that there could be found so many human beings willing to enter upon such an extensive fool's errand. It will probably be several years before the "commonweal movement" can be placed in true perspective along with the other events of the times. And meantime Coxe retires to obscurity as suddenly as he emerged from it. Arizona feels gratified for the fact that she didn't contribute one man to this questionable proceeding.—Gazette.

Another Big Project.

A venture of considerable importance, if it is consummated, is that of the Pennsylvania Irrigating company, which proposes to reclaim 30,000 acres of land in Paradise Valley, fourteen miles north of Phoenix on the west side of Cave Creek.

W. J. Hulings, the president of the company, writes Wade H. Hulings the secretary, that he will be in Phoenix by Oct. 1, of this year with \$200,000 which is now considered the necessary funds for completing the enterprise.

The work will consist in constructing a filled dam across Cave Creek where it is proposed to impound flood-water and abduct the same to Paradise Valley by a canal sixteen miles in length. They have had engineers' estimates and as the annual rainfall on that creek is 15-inches per annum they believe they can develop 200,000 cubic inches per second of water, which will be ample to irrigate the entire 30,000 acres. The entire cost of reclamation will thus be reduced to \$7 an acre for the entire section.

This scheme has been extensively advertised throughout Pennsylvania and there are at present so many inquiries about this country that at almost every railroad depot in the Keystone state may be seen a card posted up telling the public the fare to Phoenix. A little later in the season several excursions will start for this valley and a number of people have already arranged to come by water, down the Ohio and Mississippi rivers as far as Little Rock, Ark., from which place some will come by team and others by rail.

According to the letter from the president of the company, the money is already in bank and they are only waiting for cool weather to begin the work which will be completed in a few months.—Saturday Review.

A New Variety of Stone.

Col. C. P. Sykes, who is interested in a lithographic stone quarry at Sycamore creek, has recently made a discovery of a peculiar kind of stone there, which is different from anything heretofore discovered in this country, and as far as known, there is nothing like it in the world. Over 100 men have examined the specimens, which he has had polished, but none of them have ever seen anything like them. Some of this number have been experts in the matter of stone of all kinds but this particular kind is new to them. It is a lime formation and is found in stratas, mostly above the lithographic stone. In texture and quality, it very closely resembles lithographic stone, but is variegated in colors, the tints being more delicate than onyx, although the stone has not the translucence possessed by onyx. Some of the specimens have figures on them of such delicate shading that it has the appearance of being painted by hand. He has discovered thirty-five different varieties of this stone already in partially prospecting the quarry and thinks that he can safely count on there being fifty varieties. He thinks that this stone will come into use for ornamental building purposes, instead of onyx, and he will shortly take specimens of it, as well as of his lithographic stone, to New York. The latter has been tested already, and excellent results have been obtained from it.—Journal-Miner.

A Rich Gold Strike.

J. B. Osborne, an experienced mining man of Daggett, is at the United States hotel. In speaking of the mining district of Calico, where he lives, he said that it had always been a silver camp, but since the price of that metal had become so low all the work had been stopped. The silver had all been taken from the south side of the Calico mountains, a low range some twenty miles long. He had just received a letter from a party of three prospectors who had been over on the north side of the mountain and had discovered a very rich ledge of gold. From assays made it ran from \$25 to \$125 per ton.

Everything appeared to point to a very rich gold camp and several locations had been made. It will revive the whole district.—Los Angeles Herald.

It may be safely said that no specimen in a geological collection is more curious than the bar of flexible sandstone, which can be bent with less pressure than that required to bend a piece of wet leather of the same size. In an article upon the subject in the Mineral Collector we are told that "when a thin slice of the stone is looked at under a lens by transmitted light the fragments are seen to be locked together like the parts of a section puzzle toy, fixed, but only loosely. The simplest way of explaining how this stone was formed is to say that the grains of sand were once cemented firmly together by another material, which has been partly dissolved, leaving countless natural ball-and-socket joints of jagged shape behind.

All the railroads in Mexico have been built under the condition that they shall revert to the government absolutely at or before the expiration of 99 years from the date of their charters. A maximum freight and passenger rate is fixed by law according to distance, quantity and nature of freight, and strikers are prohibited under severe penalties from interfering in any manner whatever with railroad traffic, and the laws are rigidly enforced.—Tombstone Prospector.

Ups and Downs of a Miner's Life.

The ups and downs of a miner's life are well illustrated, says the Colonist, in the career of William Barker, for whom the town of Barkerville was named, and whose funeral took place from the Old Men's Home, where for months he has lain seriously ill. The deceased was a native of Cornwall, being in his early life a sailor. He came to British Columbia in 1858, one of his shipmates on the long voyage round being the veteran Robert Ridley, who also shared with him the adventures and varying fortunes of his life in the mines. In partnership with the late Bob Dexter, Barker's profits for a few months ran into thousands of dollars a day, but so free was he with his money that he saved nothing for his declining years. To "Bill Barker" belonged the honor of sinking the first shaft "below the canyon," and at one time his fortune was counted by the hundreds of thousands.

Big Enterprises.

In more ways than one South Africa presents striking examples of mining enterprise. The latest is in the direction of the amalgamation of groups of mines into single self-contained concerns with the view of conducting operations upon an enormous scale. There are several combinations of this character, and others are projected. The most illimitable low grade ore deposits of the Witwatersrand and other fields can only be made to yield profits by the employment of huge capital, and the centralization of power and machinery. South African financiers are fully alive to the necessity for progressive measures; they are dominated by enterprise, the mere bigness is not likely to stand in the way of the consummation of their schemes.—Australian Mining Standard.

The London Statist says: "Things being so, we strongly recommend our readers to be exceedingly cautious how they touch any American securities. Unless something is done there are likely to be very trying times before us, and there can hardly be an early recovery. As we have said over and over again, we attach far less importance to the tariff bill than the public generally and most of our contemporaries. A wise tariff reform is requisite, of course, but the wisest reform would not restore confidence instantly. It is the currency question that is really urgent and really dangerous, and Congress deliberately shuts its eyes to the currency question, and will do nothing that it ought to do. Therefore, we greatly fear that there are trying times before us."

The Rico-Aspen company this week discovered a piece of solid silver in some lumber one of the carpenters was planning at the Syndicate tunnel. It has the appearance of having been shot into the tree some years ago, and now the question arises as to whether the Aztecs or Cliff Dwellers or Navajo Indians used silver in making bullets. Major Litchfield thinks it was the Aztecs and produces much proof in sustaining his theory, which he authorizes the Sun to state contains no "drags."—Rico Sun.

Forty-three Indians, bucks, squaws, and children, who were off the reservation without passes, were rounded up by scouts on Wednesday near Pinal ranch. On the return trip some of the truants gave the scouts the slip and escaped into the mountains. The Indians were out gathering acorns, customary with them at this season of the year.—Silver Belt.



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